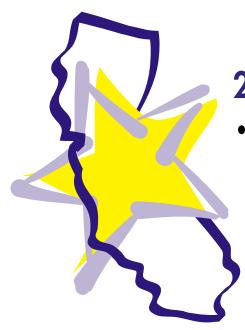
# Reporting 2001 STAR Results to Parents/Guardians

# **Assistance Packet**



# **2001 STAR Tests**

- Stanford 9
  - California
     Standards Tests
    - SABE/2

June 2001

prepared by the

Standards and Assessment Division California Department of Education

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# **Section II**

### **California Standards Tests**

Parent Guide to the 2001 California Standards Tests

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# Parent Guide to the 2001 California Standards Tests

The California Standards Tests are given to public school students in grades 2 through 11 as part of the state's Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. Enacted into law in 1997, the STAR Program has two components in addition to the California Standards Tests: the Stanford Achievement Test, Ninth Edition, Form T, (Stanford 9) and the Spanish Assessment of Basic Education, Second Edition (SABE/2).

### A Test for California Schools

- The California Standards Tests, developed specifically for California public schools, are aligned to state-adopted standards that describe what students should know and be able to do in each grade and subject tested.
- The California Standards Tests in English-Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 2 through 11 became part of the STAR Program in 1999. Standards Tests in History-Social Science and Science for grades 9 through 11 were added in 2001. Writing tests for grades 4 and 7, requiring students to write an essay in response to an assigned task, also were added in 2001.
- Standards Tests for 2001 STAR include questions from the Stanford 9 Englishlanguage arts tests for grades 2 through 11 and mathematics tests for grades 2 through 7 that are aligned to state-adopted standards and additional test questions that address the standards. The number of items used from the Stanford 9 for the Standards Tests vary by grade level and subject area.

### **Test Content and Format**

- Standards Tests in English-Language Arts in grades 2 through 11; in Mathematics in grades 2 through 7; and in History-Social Science in grades 9, 10, and 11 are tied to specific grade levels.
- The Mathematics Standards Tests in grades 8 through 11 are tied to specific math courses. A grade 11 Mathematics Standards Test is given to students who completed algebra II or third-year integrated math at any time before testing begins.
- Students in grades 9, 10, and 11 take Science Standards Tests that also are tied to specific courses rather than grade levels.
- Questions for all Standards Tests, except for the writing tests in grades 4 and 7, are in a multiple-choice format.
- Student responses to the writing tasks are scored using 4-point scoring guides that are aligned to state-adopted standards for writing strategies, applications, and conventions.

### **Performance Level Reporting**

- The California Standards Tests are criterionreferenced tests. Results are based on how well students achieve identified state-adopted standards, not how student results compare with results of other students taking the same tests.
- The State Board of Education approved five performance levels for reporting results of the California Standards Tests. The performance levels designated are advanced, proficient, basic, below basic, and far below basic.



# Parent Guide to the 2001 California Standards Tests

- Initial recommendations came from a Performance Level Setting Panel, convened in summer 2000.
   The State Board also scheduled regional hearings to receive public input before final performance levels were adopted in February 2001.
- include the writing test scores. Writing test scores will be included in 2002 performance level results.
- 2001 performance level results for English-language arts are being used in calculating 2001 base APIs for each school.

### Reporting 2001 Results

- Individual student and group results of the 2001 administration of the California English-Language Arts Standards Tests are being reported using performance levels.
- The performance levels used to report 2001 results for English-language arts are:
  - advanced
  - proficient
  - basic
  - below basic
  - far below basic
- The performance levels describe student achievement with respect to California English-Language Arts Content Standards.
- The 2001 performance level results for the English-Language Arts Standards Tests in grades 4 and 7 are based on the multiple-choice questions and do not

### Performance Levels for All Content Areas

- The State Board is scheduled to adopt performance levels for the California Standards Tests in Mathematics, History-Social Science, and Science in fall 2001.
- Performance levels for incorporating the writing tests into the grade 4 and 7 English-language arts performance levels also will be adopted in fall 2001.
- Performance levels are scheduled to be used to report individual and group results for spring 2002 Standards Tests in Mathematics, History-Social Science, and Science.
- 2001 Performance Level Summary Reports, similar to the English-language arts reports distributed in spring 2001, will be developed for mathematics, history-social science, science in spring 2002.

# Range of English-Language Arts Scores\* Within Each Performance Level by Grade\*\*

			-		
Grade	Far Below Basic	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
2	0-25	26-38	39-54	55-65	66+
3	0-25	26-38	39-53	54-64	65+
4	0-26	27-38	39-58	59- <i>7</i> 2	<i>7</i> 3+
5	0-27	28-38	39-58	59-72	<i>7</i> 3+
6	0-29	30-41	42-60	61 <i>-7</i> 3	74+
7	0-32	33-45	46-62	63-74	<i>7</i> 5+
8	0-32	33-44	45-61	62-73	74+
9	0-30	31-42	43 - 59	60-72	<i>7</i> 3+
10	0-29	30-43	44-62	63-74	<i>7</i> 5+
11	0-30	31-43	44-59	60-71	<i>7</i> 2+

<sup>\*</sup> Number of items correct.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The grades 2 and 3 tests include 75 items; tests in grades 4–11 include 90 items.

# English-Language Arts: Grades 2-5

The California English-Language Arts standards tests in grades 2 through 5 address state-adopted content standards in reading, writing, and the conventions of English (e.g., sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling).

### Grades 2-3

Students in grades 2 and 3 are required to comprehend the meaning of words, understand informative writing and children's literature appropriate for their grade levels, and show their knowledge of good writing skills.

### Grades 4-5

Students in grades 4 and 5 are required to determine the meaning of words, analyze and interpret informative writing and literature appropriate for their grade levels, and show their knowledge of good writing skills.

### **Writing Test**

In addition to answering multiple-choice questions, students in grade 4 were required to write an essay. Students were given 60 minutes for the writing test. During that time, students were required to read a short article and prepare a summary of information. The article was similar to what might be found in a children's newsmagazine, nonfiction book, or encylopedia. The piece read by students was appropriate for fourth grade.

Student responses to the writing tasks were scored using a four-point scoring guide. This scoring guide is aligned to state-adopted standards for writing strategies, applications, and conventions. See page 21 for the complete scoring guide for the grade 4 writing test.

## **Sample Questions**

### Grades 2-3

In sample question one, students are asked to recognize proper use of punctuation.

# Grade 2 Written and Oral English Language Conventions—Standard 1.4

Use commas in the greeting and closure of a letter and with dates and times in a series.

### 1. Which is the correct way to end a letter?

- **A** Your friend *Miguel*
- **B** Your, friend. *Miguel*
- C "Your friend" *Miguel*
- **D** Your friend, *Miguel* \*

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

In sample question two, students are asked to analyze a word in order to understand its meaning.

### **Grade 2 Reading—Standard 1.9**

Know the meaning of simple prefixes and suffixes (e.g., over-, un-, -ing, -ly).

### 2. Read this sentence:

Freddy's puppy is nameless.

### Nameless means the puppy—

- A knows its name
- **B** has many names
- C hears its name
- D has no name \*

In sample question three, students are asked to recognize correct capitalization.

# Grade 3 Written and Oral Language Conventions—Standard 1.7

Capitalize names, holidays, historical periods, and special events correctly.

# 3. What is the correct way to write this sentence?

- **F** We'll be in oregon on Thanksgiving Day.
- **G** We'll be in Oregon on Thanksgiving Day. \*
- **H** We'll be in oregon on thanksgiving day.
- I We'll be in Oregon on thanksgiving day.

In sample question four, students are asked to read a poem about a boy and his uncle and to identify the speaker.

### Grade 3 Reading—Standard 3.6

Identify the speaker or narrator in a selection.

### 4. Who is the speaker in this passage?

- A A teacher
- **B** An uncle
- C A parent
- D A child \*

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

### Grades 4-5

In sample question one, students are asked to read "The Pecan Tree" and to recognize the reason for a character's actions.

### **Grade 4 Reading—Standard 3.3**

Use knowledge of the situation and setting and of a character's traits and motivations to determine the causes for that character's actions.

- 1. In "The Pecan Tree," why did Pablo lower his bucket to the other side of the stone wall?
  - **A** He was returning a bucket that he had once borrowed from Juanita.
  - **B** He wanted to give Juanita the last pecans they would ever have. \*
  - C Juanita had asked him to give her the pecans because it was her tree.
  - **D** He had grown tired of pecans and did not want any more of them.

In sample question two, students are asked to identify how two stories that they read are alike.

### Grade 4 Reading—Standard 3.4

Compare and contrast tales from different cultures by tracing the exploits of one character type and develop theories to account for similar tales in diverse cultures (e.g., trickster tales).

- 2. Both stories have to do with the sharing of
  - A clothing
  - **B** shelter
  - C food \*
  - D water

In sample question three, students are asked to analyze a word to identify its origin.

### Grade 5 Reading—Standard 1.2

Use word origins to determine the meaning of unknown words.

3. Read the sentence.

The swimmers <u>splattered</u> water onto the bank of the swimming hole.

<u>Splattered</u> is a word that consists of two words blended together. Which two words were blended to make the word splattered?

- **F** slipped and shattered
- **G** splashed and spattered \*
- H slapped and clattered
- I slopped and pattered

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

In sample question four, students are asked to read an essay by Marcus, a student, describing a hike and identify words that establish the setting.

### Grade 5 Reading—Standard 1.2b

Create multiple-paragraph narrative compositions (that) describe the setting.

- 4. Which words does Marcus use to describe the setting in Paragraph 1 of his essay?
  - **A** father, I, and we
  - **B** took, gave, and think
  - C summer, Colorado, and lake \*
  - **D** sandwich, water, and meal

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# California Writing Standards Test Scoring Guide: Grade 4

### The writing

- *clearly* addresses all parts of the writing task.
- demonstrates a *clear* understanding of purpose.
- maintains a *consistent* point of view, focus, and organizational structure, including paragraphing when appropriate.
- includes a *clearly presented* central idea with *relevant* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes a *variety* of sentence types.
- contains *few, if any, errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### **Summary Writing**

■ is characterized by paraphrasing of the main idea(s) and *significant* details.

### **?** The writing—

- addresses all parts of the writing task.
- demonstrates a *general* understanding of purpose.
- maintains a *mostly consistent* point of view, focus, and organizational structure, including paragraphing when appropriate.
- presents a central idea with *mostly relevant* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes a *variety* of sentence types.
- contains *some errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Summary writing—

■ is characterized by paraphrasing of the main idea(s) and *significant* details.

### The writing—

- addresses *only parts* of the writing task.
- demonstrates *little* understanding of purpose.
- maintains an *inconsistent* point of view, focus, and/or organizational structure.
- suggests a central idea with *limited* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes *little* variety in sentence types.
- contains *several errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors may interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Summary writing—

■ is characterized by *substantial* copying of key phrases and *minimal* paraphrasing.

### The writing—

- addresses *only* one part of the writing task.
- demonstrates *no* understanding of purpose.
- *lacks* a clear point of view, focus, and/or organizational structure.
- *lacks* a central idea but may contain *marginally related* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes *no* sentence variety.
- contains *serious errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Summary writing—

- is characterized by substantial copying of *indiscriminately selected* phrases or sentences.
- **a** *fails* to provide support for judgments.

## Mathematics: Grades 2-5

California Mathematics Standards Tests address stateadopted content standards in mathematical reasoning, problem solving, and basic computational skills. The mathematics tests in grades 2 through 5 are specific to a student's grade level in school.

### Grades 2-3

By the end of grade 2, students understand place value and number relationships in addition and subtraction, and they use simple multiplication concepts. They measure quantities with appropriate units. They classify shapes and see geometric relationships among them. They collect and analyze data and verify the answers.

By the end of grade 3, students increase their understanding of place value. They also become more skilled with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers. Students estimate, measure, and describe objects in space. They use patterns to help solve problems. They represent number relationships and conduct simple probability experiments.

### Grades 4-5

By the end of grade 4, students understand large numbers and addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers. They describe and compare simple fractions and decimals. They understand the properties of, and the relationships between, plane geometric figures. They collect, represent, and analyze data to answer questions.

By the end of grade 5, students increase their skills in applying computational skills to fractions, decimals, and positive and negative numbers. They know and use common measuring units to determine length and area. They know and use formulas to determine the volume of simple geometric figures. Students understand the concept of angle measurement and use a protractor and compass to solve problems. They use grids, tables, graphs, and charts to record and analyze data.

# **Sample Questions**

### Grades 2-3

# Grade 2 Mathematics—Standard 1.3 (Measurement and Geometry)

Students understand that measurement is accomplished by identifying a unit of measure, iterating (repeating) that unit, and comparing it to the item to be measured: Measure the length of an object to the nearest inch and/or centimeter.

1. Use your inch ruler to measure the length of this worm.

The state of the s

A 2 inchesC 5 inches

**B** 3 inches \*

**O** 6 inches

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# Grade 3 Mathematics—Standard 1.3 (Number Sense)

Students understand the place value of whole numbers: Identify the place value for each digit in numbers to 10,000.

2. A submarine went down 5,920 feet into the ocean. What number is in the thousands place of 5,920?

$$\mathbf{D} = 0$$

### Grades 4-5

# Grade 4 Mathematics—Standard 1.3 (Number Sense)

Students understand the place value of whole numbers and decimals to two decimal places and how whole numbers and decimals relate to simple fractions. Students use the concepts of negative numbers: Round whole numbers through the millions to the nearest ten, hundred, thousand, ten thousand, or hundred thousand.

1. What is 9,308,791 rounded to the nearest ten?

# Grade 5 Mathematics—Standard 1.2 (Number Sense)

Students compute with very large and very small numbers, positive integers, decimals, and fractions and understand the relationship between decimals, fractions, and percents. They understand the relative magnitudes of numbers: Interpret percents as a part of a hundred; find decimal and percent equivalents for common fractions and explain why they represent the same value; compute a given percent of a whole number.

2. Which percentage is equivalent to the fraction 3/4?

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# English-Language Arts: Grades 6-8

The California English-Arts Standards Tests in grades 6, 7, and 8 address state-adopted content standards in reading, writing, and the conventions of English (e.g., sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling). Students are asked to determine the meaning of words, analyze and interpret informative writing and literature, and exhibit their knowledge of good writing skills.

### **Writing Test**

In addition to answering multiple-choice questions, students in grade 7 were required to write an essay. Students were given 60 minutes for the writing test.

During that time, students were required to prepare a response to literature, after reading a short story. In their essay, they were to include their understanding of the characters and the story's overall meaning. The story read by the students was appropriate for seventh grade.

Student responses to the writing task were scored using a four-point scoring guide. This scoring guide is aligned to state-adopted standards for writing strategies, applications, and conventions (See page 26 for the complete scoring guide for grade 7).

# **Sample Questions**

In sample question one, students are asked to read a poem and determine which literary device the poem as a whole illustrates.

### Grade 6 Literary Response and Analysis— Standard 3.7

Explain the effects of common literary devices (e.g., symbolism, imagery, metaphor) in a variety of fictional and nonfictional texts.

### 1. The entire poem is an example of

- A simile
- B metaphor \*
- **C** personification
- **D** hyperbole

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

In sample question two, students are asked to read a letter from a student to her principal and select the best way to rewrite one sentence.

# Grade 7 Written and Oral English Language Conventions—Standard 1.1

Place modifiers properly and use the active voice.

2. Read the following sentence from Paragraph 3 of Jessica's letter.

We have no choice but to eat what the cafeteria staff prepares right now.

### How is this sentence best written?

- **F** We have no choice but to eat what is prepared right now by the cafeteria staff.
- **G** Right now, we have no choice but to eat what is prepared by the cafeteria staff. \*
- **H** We have no choice but to eat right now what is prepared by the cafeteria staff.
- I As it is.

In sample question three, students are asked to read directions for recording on a video cassette recorder and identify how one feature on the videocassette recorder is used.

### Grade 8 Reading—Standard 2.5

Understand and explain the use of a complex mechanical device by following technical directions.

### 3. The "select" button is used to

- F move from one programming option to the next \*
- **G** choose the channel
- H choose the show you want to record
- I tell the VCR to accept your choices

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# California Writing Standards Test Scoring Guide: Grade 7

### 1. The writing—

- *clearly* addresses all parts of the writing task.
- demonstrates a *clear understanding* of purpose and audience.
- maintains a *consistent* point of view, focus, and organizational structure, including the effective use of transitions.
- includes a *clearly presented* central idea with *relevant* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes a *variety* of sentence types.
- contains *few, if any, errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Response to literature—

- develops interpretations that demonstrate a *thoughtful*, *comprehensive* grasp of the text.
- organizes accurate and coherent interpretations around clear ideas, premises, or images from the literary work.
- provides *specific* textual examples and details to support the interpretations.

## The writing—

- addresses all parts of the writing task.
- demonstrates a *general* understanding of purpose and audience.
- maintains a *mostly consistent* point of view, focus, and organizational structure, including the effective use of some transitions.
- presents a central idea with *mostly relevant* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes a *variety* of sentence types.
- contains *some errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Response to literature—

- develops interpretations that demonstrate a *comprehensive* grasp of the text.
- organizes accurate and reasonably coherent interpretations around clear ideas, premises, or images from the literary work.
- provides textual examples and details to support the interpretations.

# The writing—

- addresses *only parts* of the writing task.
- demonstrates *little* understanding of purpose and audience.
- maintains an *inconsistent* point of view, focus, and/or organizational structure, which may include *ineffective or awkward* transitions that do not unify important ideas.
- suggests a central idea with *limited* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes *little* variety in sentence types.
- contains *several errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors may interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Response to literature—

- develops interpretations that demonstrate a *limited* grasp of the text.
- includes interpretations that *lack* accuracy or coherence as related to ideas, premises, or images from the literary work.
- provides *few, if any*, textual examples and details to support the interpretations.

### The writing—

- addresses *only one part* of the writing task.
- demonstrates *no* understanding of purpose and audience.
- *lacks* a point of view, focus, organizational structure, and transitions that unify important ideas.
- *lacks* a central idea but may contain *marginally related* facts, details, and/or explanations.
- includes *no* sentence variety.
- contains *serious errors* in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling). These errors interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing.

### Response to literature—

- demonstrates *little* grasp of the text.
- *lacks* an interpretation or may be a simple retelling of the passage.
- *lacks* textual examples and details.

### Mathematics: Grades 6-8

California Mathematics Standards Tests for students in grades 6, 7, and 8 address state-adopted content standards in mathematical reasoning, problem solving, and basic computational skills. The mathematics tests in grades 6 and 7 are specific to a student's grade level in school. Beginning at grade 8, students take tests specific to mathematics disciplines such as algebra and geometry.

By the end of grade 6, students compute and solve problems with whole numbers, positive fractions and decimals, and positive and negative numbers. Students apply their knowledge to statistics and probability. They analyze data and sampling processes for possible bias and misleading conclusions, and routinely calculate the probabilities for compound events. Students work with ratios and proportions, compute percentages, and know the formulas for the circumference and area of a circle. They use letters for numbers in formulas involving geometric shapes and in ratios to represent an unknown part of an expression. They solve one-step linear equations.

By the end of grade 7, students understand and use factoring of numerators and denominators and properties of exponents. Students know the Pythagorean theorem and how to compute the surface area and volume of basic 3-dimensional objects. Students make conversions between different units of measurement, and know and use different representations of fractional numbers. Students compute percents of increase and decrease, and simple and compound interest. They graph linear functions and understand the idea of slope and its relation to ratio.

The intent of the standards is to ensure that all students in grade 8 are given an opportunity to master the standards for Algebra I. Fundamental concepts needed to understand algebra are introduced to students as early as kindergarten. If students are given the rigorous curriculum outlined in the standards, they will be well prepared.

# **Sample Questions**

# Grade 6 Mathematics—Standard 1.1 (Measurement and Geometry)

Students deepen their understanding of the measurement of plane and solid shapes and use this understanding to solve problems: Understanding the concept of a constant such as  $\pi$ ; know the formulas for the circumference and area of a circle.

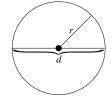
# 1. Which formula can be used to find the area of the circle shown?

$$\mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{\pi} r$$

**B** 
$$A = \pi d$$

$$\mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{A} = \pi r^2 *$$

$$\mathbf{D} \quad \mathbf{A} = \pi d^2$$



# Grade 7 Mathematics—Standard 1.1 (Number Sense)

Students know the properties of, and compute with, rational numbers expressed in a variety of forms: Read, write, and compare rational numbers in scientific notation (positive and negative powers of 10) with approximate numbers using scientific notation.

# 2. Which shows 0.000004792 written in scientific notation?

I 
$$0.4792 \times 10^5$$

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# Grade 8 Mathematics—Standard 7.0 (Algebra I)

Students verify that a point lies on a line, given an equation of the line. Students are able to derive linear equations by using the point-slope formula.

3. Which equation defines the line that contains the point (4, -3) and has a slope of 1/2?

**A** 
$$x - 2y = 10$$
\*

**B** 
$$x + 2y = 10$$

**C** 
$$2x - y = 11$$

**D** 
$$2x + y = 5$$

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# English Language Arts: Grades 9-11

The California English-Language Arts Standards Tests at grades 9 through 11 address state-adopted content standards in reading, writing, and the conventions of English (e.g., grammar, usage, punctuation, sentence structure, diction, and syntax). Students are asked to determine the meaning of words, analyze and interpret literary and informational writing, and demonstrate their knowledge of good writing skills for different types of writing.

## **Sample Questions**

For sample questions one and two, students are asked to read a short narrative, "Buzzard," by Bailey White, and a poem, "The Peace of Wild Things," by Wendell Berry. These sample questions are part of a series of multiple-choice questions that address these reading passages.

### Grades 9/10 Reading—Standard 3.9

Explain how voice, persona and the choice of a narrator effect characterization and the tone, plot, and credibility of a text.

# 1. What is the affect of the first person point of view used in "Buzzard"?

- **A** It creates sympathy for the narrator.
- **B** It makes the account more disturbing.
- C It makes the account of the event more personal.\*
- **D** It creates a bond between the eagle and the narrator.

### Grades 9/10 Reading—Standard 3.5

Compare works that express a universal theme and provide evidence to support the ideas expressed in each work.

# 2. Both selections explain that people can learn from nature. Which sentence from White's narrative expresses this idea *most* explicitly?

- **A** "He turned his head and gave me a long look through the car windshield with his level yellow eyes."
- **B** "Then he slowly wheeled up into the sky until he was just a black dot against the blue."
- C "When I got started again, I drove slower and felt smaller."
- **D** "I think it does us all good to get looked at like that now and then by a wild animal."\*

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

### Grades 9/10 Reading—Standard 1.2

Distinguish between the denotative and connotative meanings of words and interpret the connotative power of words.

- 3. In which sentence does the underlined word have the most *negative* connotation?
  - **F** Sasha feels <u>compassion</u> for her friend.
  - **G** Sasha feels pity for her friend.\*
  - H Sasha feels sympathy for her friend.
  - I Sasha feels empathy for her friend.

For sample question four, students read a student essay and Works Cited page.

### Grades 9/10 Writing—Standard 1.7

Use appropriate conventions for documentation in the text, notes, and bibliographies by adhering to those in style manuals (e.g., Modern Language Association Handbook, the Chicago Manual of Style).

- 4. Based on information in the Works Cited section, which author wrote an article for a medical magazine?
  - A Peter Evans
  - **B** Donald Haversham
  - C Jonathan Selkirk\*
  - D Gina Lombardo

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

### Mathematics: Grades 9-11

The California Mathematics Standards Tests for students in grades 9 through 11 are for the mathematics course in which a student is enrolled. They are not given by grade level like the tests for grades 2 through 7.

The standards tested in grades 9 through 11 are organized differently from those for kindergarten through grade 7. Mathematics studied in grades 9 through 11 arrange naturally under discipline headings: algebra, geometry, and so forth. Many schools teach this material in traditional courses;

others teach it in an integrated fashion. To allow local educational agencies and teachers flexibility in teaching the material, the standards for grades 9 through 11 specify the course content of subjects that must be covered. Students are expected to achieve the standards however these subjects are sequenced.

There are seven test options for students, depending on the course in which they are enrolled or have completed. The California Mathematics Standards Tests are:

### **Disciplines**

- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Geometry

### **Integrated Math**

- Integrated Math 1
- Integrated Math 2
- Integrated Math 3

### Grade 11

• Grade 11 Test\*

# **Sample Questions**

### Algebra I Mathematics—Standard 5.0

Students solve multistep problems, including word problems, involving linear equations and linear inequalities in one variable and provide justification for each step.

The table below shows the steps followed in solving an equation.

Step	Statement	Reason
1	3(x-5) = 12	Given
2	3x - 15 = 12	?
3	3x = 27	Addition Property of Equality
4	x = 9	Multiplication Property of Equality

- 1. Which property could be used to justify statement #2?
  - **A** Distributive Property\*
  - **B** Associative Property
  - **C** Addition Property of Equality
  - **D** Multiplication Property of Equality

<sup>\*</sup> Only given to students in the grade 11 who have completed algebra II or Integrated Math 3 the previous semester. The test includes standards from algebra I, geometry, algebra II, and probability and statistics.

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

### Algebra I Mathematics—Standard 6.0

Students graph a linear equation and compute the x- and y- intercepts (e.g., graph 2x + 6y = 4). They are also able to sketch the region defined by linear inequality (e.g., they sketch the region defined by 2x + 6y < 4).

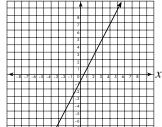
2. Which equation best represents the graph below?

$$\mathbf{A} \quad x - 2y = 1$$

**B** 
$$2x - y = 1^*$$

$$\mathbf{C} \quad x + 2y = 1$$

**D** 
$$2x + y = 1$$



### Algebra II Mathematics—Standard 8.0

Students solve and graph quadratic equations by factoring, completing the square, or using the quadratic formula. Students apply these techniques in solving word problems. They also solve quadratic equations in the complex number system.

3. Jordan has been given the job of building a tile sidewalk with uniform width around a 12 feet by 18 feet rectangular pool at the city zoo. If she uses 136 square feet of tile, how wide will the sidewalk be?

### **Probability and Statistics—Standard 2.0**

Students know the definition of *conditional probability* and use it to solve for probabilities in finite sample spaces.

4. A box contains 2 red marbles and 2 blue marbles. If a blue marble is drawn out and NOT replaced, what is the probability that the next marble drawn will be red?

### Geometry—Standard 10

Students compute areas of polygons including rectangles, scalene triangles, equilateral triangles, rhombi, parallelograms, and trapezoids.

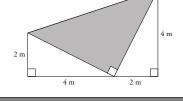
5. A trapezoid section of a park is divided into 3 right triangles with measurements as shown in the drawing.

What is the area of the shaded triangle?

$$\mathbf{B} = 9 \text{ m}^2$$

C 10 
$$m^2$$
\*

$$\mathbf{D}$$
 20 m<sup>2</sup>



<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

# History-Social Science: Grades 9-11

The California History-Social Science Standards Tests are given in grades 9, 10, and 11. The grade 9 test is a summary test that covers the state content standards from grades 4 through 8. The grade 10 and 11 tests address state content and skill standards for each of those grades.

One-fourth of the content on the grade 10 and 11 tests includes historical and social science analysis skills that are based on grade 9 and 10 standards. Topics covered on the test include:

### Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 11

- California: A Changing State (grade 4)
- United States History and Geography: Making a New Nation (grade 5)
- World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations (grade 6)
- World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times (grade 7)
- World History and Geography: Growth and Conflict (grade 8)
- World History
- Culture and Geography: The Modern World
- United States History and Geography: Continuity and Change in the Twentieth Century

# **Sample Questions**

### Grade 9—Standard 4.4

Students explain how California became an agricultural industrial power, tracing the transformation of the California economy and its political and cultural development since the 1850s.

- 1. Which of these was a major cause of immigration to California between 1850–1900?
  - A Settlement House movement
  - **B** Demand for labor\*
  - C Collapse of the mission system
  - **D** Homestead Act of 1862

### Grade 10—Standard 10.2

Students compare and contrast the Glorious Revolution of England, the American Revolution, and the French Revolution and their enduring effects worldwide on the political expectations for self-government and individual liberty.

- (21) Earls and barons shall be fined only by their peers, and in proportion to the gravity of their offence.
- (39) No free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor will we proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by the lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land.
- 2. The legal principles listed in the passage come from which of these documents?
  - A Magna Carta\*
  - **B** Bill of Rights
  - **C** Edict of Nantes
  - **D** Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

### Grade 11-Standard 11.4

Students trace the rise of the United States to its role as a world power in the twentieth century.

- 3. During the early 1920s, the United States attempted to reduce the threat of future wars by inviting other world powers to Washington conferences aimed at—
  - F stopping the naval arms race\*
  - **G** strengthening the League of Nations
  - H setting World War I war debts
  - J liberalizing international trade

### Grade 11-Standard 11.2

Students analyze the relationship among the rise of industrialization, large-scale rural-to-urban migration, and massive immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.

- 4. Which statement about the reforms proposed by the Populists in the late 19th Century is *most* accurate?
  - A Their reforms were identical to those of the Socialist Party.
  - B Many of their reforms were eventually enacted into law by Progressive politicians.\*
  - C Their program appealed primarily to urban residents.
  - D Their reforms resulted in the passage of civil rights legislation.

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

### Science: Grades 9-11

The intent of the California Science Standards Tests is to provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate their mastery of science facts, concepts, principles, and theories as outlined in the California Science Content Standards. Science tests in the disciplines of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Earth Science assess specific standards relevant to

the discipline as well as Investigation and Experimentation standards. The Coordinated/Integrated science tests assess each of the three discipline standards as well as Investigation and Experimentation standards. The California Science Standards Tests are:

### Traditional Disciplines of Science Integrated/Coordinated Sciences

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth Science
- Physics
- Earth/Chemistry/Physics (ECP)
- Earth/Biology/Physics (EBP)
- Earth/Biology/Chemistry (EBC)
- Biology/Chemistry/Physics (BCP)

# **Sample Questions**

### Biology-Standard 1A

The fundamental life processes of plants and animals depend on a variety of chemical reactions that occur in specialized areas of the organism's cells. As a basis for understanding this concept, students know: cells are enclosed within semi-permeable membranes that regulate their interaction with their surroundings.

- 1. In some seaweeds, iodine can be found in concentrations a thousand times higher than that of seawater. This concentration is *most* likely maintained by the action of the—
  - F Golgi apparatus
  - G nucleus
  - H cell membrane\*
  - J lysomes

### Physics—Standard 1b

Newton's Laws predict the motion of most objects. As a basis for understanding this concept students know: when forces are balanced no acceleration occurs; thus an object continues to move at a constant speed or stays at rest (Newton's First Law).

- 2. A model airplane has an engine that provides a constant force of 110 newtons. The airplane weighs 10 newtons. If the airplane is flying through the air in a straight, horizontal line at a constant speed, the air resistance acting on the airplane is—
  - **A** 10 N
  - **B** 100 N\*
  - C 110 N
  - **D** 200 N

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.

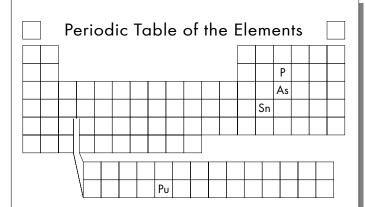
### Earth Science—Standard 4c

Energy enters the Earth system primarily as solar radiation and eventually escapes as heat. As a basis for understanding this concept, students know: the different atmospheric gases that absorb the Earth's thermal radiation and the mechanism and significance of the greenhouse effect.

- 3. Which of the following has the *greatest* influence on the increase of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere?
  - A Fossil fuel combustion\*
  - B Reforestation projects
  - C Ozone layer depletion
  - D Chlorofluorocarbon production

### Chemistry—Standard 1b

The Periodic Table displays the elements in increasing atomic number and shows how periodicity of the physical and chemical properties of the elements relates to atomic structure. As a basis for understanding this concept students know: how to use the periodic table to identify metals, semimetals, nonmetals, and halogens.



- 4. Which of these elements is a semimetal (metalloid)?
  - **F** Phosphorus (P)
  - **G** Arsenic (As)\*
  - H Tin (Sn)
  - J Plutonium (Pu)

<sup>\*</sup> The asterisk indicates the correct answer for each sample question.